

Foundation has documented many other instances and reported them in its press releases.

#### TRIBUTE TO GUY THOMS

##### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a remarkable public servant from my district. Sergeant Guy Thoms of Pueblo, Colorado recently retired from the Pueblo Police Department after twenty-nine years of service, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his many years of dedication to the citizens of Pueblo.

Guy embarked on his service to our country in the early 1970s when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He later served as a police officer in New York in 1974 where Guy served on the SWAT team until he relocated to Colorado. In 1978, Guy joined the Pueblo Police Department in the patrol division, where his mettle was steadily rewarded with promotions. In 1990, Guy was made a Sergeant and focused his efforts on combating the growing threat posed by gang violence in the region.

Guy's altruistic spirit extended beyond his official duties as a police officer and could be witnessed in his generosity towards his fellow officers. He donated portions of his vacation time to officers who were in need of time off due to injury and illness. Guy also served on the Pueblo Police Pension Board for many years.

Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to say goodbye to such a dedicated officer as Guy Thoms, and his hard work and determination will certainly be missed. The city of Pueblo has greatly benefited from its quality police force, a force that owes much of its success to officers like Guy. I thank him for his years of service and wish him all the best in the future.

#### ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

##### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 43rd anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on this day in 1960 that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am very fortunate and privileged to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country.

It is truly one of my greatest pleasures as a Member of Congress to participate in the life of this community, and the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know are one of its greatest rewards.

This year, Cyprus' Independence Day occurs at a time of great hope for the people of Cyprus and significant advances in U.S.-Cyprus relations.

Since the last celebration of Cyprus Independence Day, Cyprus has experienced

events of major historic importance. On April 16, 2003, Cyprus signed the Accession Treaty to the European Union at a special ceremony in Athens, Greece. Cyprus is slated officially to join the EU in May 2004.

Later this month, we will welcome a new Ambassador of Cyprus, Mr. Euripides Evriadiades, a career diplomat with a distinguished record. He will succeed Ambassador Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, who has left after five years of exemplary service during a remarkably eventful time for Cyprus and in our bilateral relations.

However, the commemoration of Cyprus' Independence Day this year, as in the past, is clouded by the fact that 37 percent of the Mediterranean island nation's territory continues to be illegally occupied by the Turkish military forces, in violation of UN Security Council resolutions.

Cyprus and the United States have a great deal in common. We share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under the law.

In fact, Cyprus was among the first nations to express its solidarity with the United States immediately following the September 11th terrorist attacks. Cyprus has taken many concrete and active steps to target the perpetrators, collaborators and financiers of terrorism. For example, Cyprus has endorsed and implemented all resolutions and decisions of the U.N. Security Council, the EU and other International Organizations pertaining to the fight against terrorism.

Unfortunately, Cyprus is not without its own difficult history. 37 percent of this nation is still occupied by a hostile foreign power, and it has been for almost thirty years.

On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 35,000 heavily armed troops. Nearly 200,000 Greek Cypriots, who fell victim to a policy of ethnic cleansing, were forcibly evicted from their homes and became refugees in their own country.

Despite the hardships and trauma caused by the ongoing Turkish occupation, Cyprus has registered remarkable economic growth, and the people living in the Government-controlled areas enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living. Sadly, the people living in the occupied area continue to be mired in poverty.

Earlier this year, the Turkish occupation regime partially lifted restrictions on freedom of movement across the artificial line of division created by Turkey's military occupation. Since then, hundreds of thousands of Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots have crossed the UN ceasefire line to visit their homes and properties or areas of their own country that were inaccessible to them for nearly 30 years. The peaceful and cooperative spirit in the person-to-person, family-to-family interactions between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots bodes well for the successful reunification of Cyprus.

In the times we are facing, it is clear that divisions among people create harmful, destructive environments. The U.S. has expressed its unwavering support for a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem and I wholeheartedly agree. The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring. We stand together celebrating democracy and freedom, hopeful that a peaceful solution will

soon be negotiated and a united Cyprus will join the EU.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MCCARROLL

##### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with solemn heart that I rise before you today to pay tribute to the life of Robert McCarroll of La Jara, Colorado. Robert was a dedicated county commissioner, member of his church and, above all, a family man. Robert was a pillar of the La Jara community, and as his family mourns his loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember his life and celebrate the work he did on behalf of others. I would like to pay tribute to this lifetime of service before this body of Congress and this Nation.

Robert served his country and his community in a variety of positions throughout his remarkable life. As a member of the Air Force during the Korean conflict, Robert served in Japan, Korea and Guam and is a member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post.

Most recently, Robert served as a Conejos County Commissioner after being elected to his first term in 2000. After his retirement from his work in warehouses, Robert decided he needed to keep busy and that pursuing his interest in politics was the best way to do so. Robert was also a dedicated member of his church. Despite all of his associations and positions, his most impressive role was serving as a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to the life and memory of Robert McCarroll before you today. He was a truly outstanding citizen, and he will be missed by many in his community. It is with admiration, respect and a sense of sadness that I recount Robert's seventy-three years of life before this body of Congress. Although Robert has left us, his good-natured spirit lives on through the lives of those he touched. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Robert's family and friends during this difficult time.

#### HONORING BISHOP ERNESTINE C. REEMS

##### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 2003*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bishop Ernestine C. Reems, Senior Pastor and Founder of Center of Hope Community Church for her lifetime of ministry and community service. She has served as a champion of faith and love for the congregation at the "Church for all People" in Oakland, California for 35 years.

Bishop Reems was the third child in a family of nine. She was stricken with tuberculosis at the age of thirteen and was ill for several years, but determined to live for God. Her foundation in ministry comes from her father, Bishop E. E. Cleveland. As a young adult, she traveled extensively as an evangelist with her brother, Reverend Elmer Cleveland. Although